

(c) whether the Chief Engineer has sanctioned the said estimates ;

(d) if not, the steps taken by the Government to sanction the estimate and order for asphaltting of the said portion of road by including in the Budget of 1977-78 ?

SRI M. MALLIKARJUNASWAMY (Minister for Public Works).—

(a) The Road require improvements. But there is no cause for danger consequent on the condition.

(b) An estimate amounting to Rs. 1.53 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Executive Engineer, Tumkur for special repairs to bad reaches of the road during 1976-77. This is exclusive of asphaltting.

(c) & (d) An amount of Rs. 9.20 lakhs is required for all-round improvements of the road which includes re-Chip-Carpetting, retaxing etc. This will be considered subject to availability of funds.

Termination of Services in K. R. Mills Ltd., Mysore.

276. **SRI M. S. KRISHNAN** (Malleswaram).—Will the Minister for Labour be pleased to state :—

(a) whether the Government is aware that the management of K. R. Mills Ltd, Mysore has terminated the services of more than 56 workers during the last two months ;

(b) if so, the reasons for such termination ;

(c) whether the Government is aware that the management of the K. R. Mills, Ltd., had gone back on its assurance held out to the workers that they could consider increase in D. A. if the norms of work are fixed ;

(d) the action the Government is taking against the employer in order to see that assurances are implemented ;

(e) whether the Government has taken any steps to ensure that all the terminated workers are taken back to work ;

SHRI C. N. PATIL (Minister for Labour).—

(a) Yes. The management have terminated the services of 55 workers.

(b) The alleged reasons are :

(i) Continuous absence from duty for more than eight days in respect of 38 workmen.

(ii) Inciting other workmen to go on strike in respect of the remaining 17 workmen.

(c) No.

It was decided in the meeting held in November 1975 before the then Labour Minister that the Labour Department should negotiate management and the unions rationalisation proposals also issues like D. A., retrenchments etc

(d) and (e) Conciliation efforts are in progress.

Leave of Absence to Sri M. H. Boraiah Grant of—

MADAM SPEAKER.—I have received a letter from Shri H. M. Boraiah, Member, Legislative Assembly requesting for leave of absence from the current sitting of the Assembly due to ill-health. Is it the pleasure of the House that leave be granted to the Member to remain absent from the current sitting of the House.

HON'BLE MEMBERS.—Yes

MADAM SPEAKER.—Permission to remain absent is granted.

ಮಾನ್ಯ ರಾಜ್ಯಸಭಾಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು ಸಭೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿರುವ ಕಾರಣ ಮಾನ್ಯ ಶಾಸನದವರು ತಮ್ಮ ಕಾಲಿಂಗ್ ಅಟೆನ್ಷನ್ ನೋಟೀಸನ್ನು ಮಂಡನೆ ಮಾಡಬಹುದು. Here I have an announcement.

CALLING ATTENTION TO A MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

re : Scarcity of Cement in Bangalore city.

SRI T. R. SHAMANNA (Fort).—I beg to call the attention of the Minister for Food and Forests to the scarcity of cement in Bangalore City.

SRI K. H. PATIL (Minister for Food and Forest).—I wish to make the following statement :—

The recent shortage of Cement which appeared in the middle of February 1977, is mainly due to power cut. Since the Cement Industry is continuous processing Industry, the cuts in power consumption will result in more than proportionate cuts in production. The Karnataka State quota for the 1st Quarter 1977, was 2,40,000 Metric tonnes and additional allotment of 30,000 M. Tonnes was made by the Controller of Cement, New Delhi, and thus the total authorisations for the 1st Quarter was 2.70 lakh Metric tonnes, out of which the total despatches to the State were to the tune of 2.09 lakh tonnes leaving a balance of about 60,000 M. tonnes yet to be supplied against the authorisation in the 1st Quarter.